

St. Joseph's College

WINTER 2011

MAGAZINE



The **EXPANSION** of **STUDENT LIFE**

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Robert Amsler

Anytime I finger through various publications at magazine and newstands, I usually marvel at the changes in design and structure most endure throughout years of publication. I often contemplate (sometimes during sleep) how different looks and assorted ways to tell each story can improve *SJC Magazine*.

Inconsistency has become the new consistency in this business, where major and notable magazines have taken each piece as its own, negating the conventional and prevalent templated designs that were made famous by *TIME* and *The New Yorker*. Engaging content is the one constant. Content truly is king. And rather than boiling deserved pieces down to just a few paragraphs in template form, some magazines have attempted to provide readers with an entire story, rather than traffic jam the publication.

Many of you may have noticed some small changes that we have made in recent issues. Brace yourself. There are more coming, with just a hint splashed in these pages.

We are pleased to have added more editorials for this issue. The first, called "A Day in the Life" from senior scribe Brendan Carey, will blanket the last two pages each issue and will chronicle just what the title suggests — he will follow an alumna, alumnus or current student through an interesting aspect of their life.

The first subject is former U.S. Marine Corporal and current SJC junior Hector Delgado, who shattered his pelvis while serving in Iraq, yet has kept in immaculate shape through CrossFit training, a grueling and elite strength and conditioning program used by many police academies and tactical operations teams, military special operations units and champion martial artists. The piece was initially slated for a personal profile, but Mr. Delgado's story and exercise routine was best told through a reporter's eyes.

Second, we have invited our faculty to participate. In "Faculty Focus," packaged with the Faculty Corner, we will

have one of our professors write about their fascinating work and passions. Assistant Professor of Psychology Peter Lin, Ph.D., was the quintessential initial subject, telling of his experience working disaster mental health in Haiti after the country's devastating 7.0 earthquake that hit in January 2010. Through his eyes, Dr. Lin painted a portrait of the dire situation and the troubles volunteers found while trying to assist, as well as how he performed his job during the aftermath of the catastrophe that impacted millions.

Next, we have a feature we know will liven up future issues, and one that we hope you, our alumni, participate in as well. Every edition, we will print a pristine, two-page photo of anything relating to SJC or New York. It can be nature, sports, health, traffic, etc., as long as our readers can associate with the shot and possibly rekindle memories. We encourage you to send us your captivating photos, but there are no promises on what will make the final cut.

Our first photo is of our \$400,000 high-tech digital classrooms that opened for the fall semester. The classrooms, which connect Brooklyn and Long Island through high-definition video cameras and screens, are a prime example of the rapid rate that technology is advancing, and affecting everybody, including the way our professors teach.

"It's high-end at this point," said Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science William McAllister, also Faculty Technology Committee head. "The room is state of the art."

"St. Joe's is heavily committed to the use of technology in education and they have committed resources to that. They have put their money where their mouth is."

I couldn't have said it better. The classrooms are indeed impressive and are the future in regard to offering students on both campuses a chance to learn from all of our outstanding faculty, as well as the opportunity to take all of the academic programs St. Joseph's offers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Gasiewski".

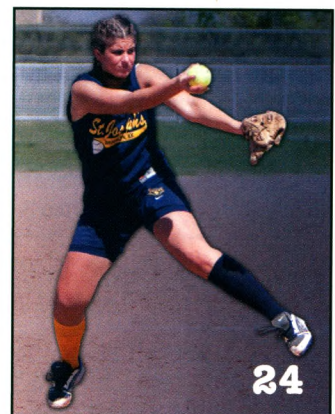
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St. Joseph's College

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BY CHRIS GASIEWSKI

Correction: We incorrectly stated that Mary Agnes Buckley Uminski '65 was living in India. She lives in Indiana. We apologize for the error.

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Not Quite Anonymous

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcnj.edu



Joe Klein

Joe Klein cloaked perhaps his greatest professional success under the guise of anonymity with the release of the fantastically successful *Primary Colors* in 1996. There were many months of speculation as to who wrote the novel until Mr. Klein revealed that he was indeed the anonymous author later that summer. The book was famously, albeit loosely, based on Bill Clinton's campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992. As to why he chose not to place his name on the book's cover, the *TIME* columnist simply stated that he was wary of how the fictional piece would be received by his peers.

Mr. Klein was at SJC in October for the latest edition of the College's successful Presidential Lecture Series. His recently published nonfiction best-seller, *Politics Lost: How American Democracy Was Trivialized By People Who Think You're Stupid*, was available for purchase outside the D'Ecclesiis Auditorium on the Long Island Campus and there was nothing anonymous about it. Mr. Klein's name was clearly written on the book's cover.

The renowned political journalist spoke at length about his latest book's genesis and its subsequent promotional tour. His experiences with the military both at home and in the Middle East sparked a realization in the author. "Something was going on in this country," he said. "So I decided to do this old-fashioned American thing — a road trip."

Spending time in states from Indiana to Colorado and California, the native New Yorker met plenty of Americans during his travels. Many shared the same worries about the state of their country, sentiments that were solidified at a town hall meeting in Michigan, Mr. Klein said.

"People in Michigan were asking very interesting questions about who we are as a generation," he said. "What's wrong with us? What's happened to us as a people?"

As with the majority of punditry in 2010, the lecture was punctuated by the omnipresent economic turmoil that continues to simmer in the minds of every American. Several audience members mentioned the various infamous bailouts during the Q-and-A session. But the renowned political journalist offered some hope. Aware of the setting, he appealed to students to stop the trend of bright young scholars heading to Wall Street for big paychecks in lieu of a more fulfilling career in a field of innovation.

He cited the character of the young men and women of the U.S. military that he met while embedded in Afghanistan as our potential saving grace.

"These are people who combine pragmatism with charisma," he said. "The essence of leadership."

"As long as we have kids like that," Mr. Klein continued, "we'll be OK." ■

Dr. Diane Ravitch Addresses Schools at Brooklyn Campus

by Michael Banach • mbanach@sjcny.edu



Robert Amsler

Dr. Diane Ravitch spoke to the Brooklyn Campus during Founders Day in October.

Throughout its history, St. Joseph's has been an active participant in the educational community due to its role as one of the preeminent colleges in teacher preparation. Consequently, any shifts in educational trends and policy have an effect on the College's students and community.

In October, Dr. Diane Ravitch addressed this during SJC's annual Founders Day lecture at the Brooklyn Campus, discussing educational trends, such as charter schools, testing standards and market-driven accountability while illustrating the

potentially destructive effects of these shifts.

Dr. Ravitch, a best-selling author and research professor at New York University, stated that American society is living in an age of insanity, and that this spirit of wanton irrationality is destroying the education system from within. She argued that leading this destruction was the emphasis and popularity of privatization initiatives to reform public schools.

"[They] have no basis in fact, and whose central tenets, most notably charter schools and standardized testing, have no conclusive

research to support their effectiveness," she said.

According to Dr. Ravitch, the adoption of charter schools take the best students out of the public schools, but also make it impossible for Catholic schools to operate because they are undercut on price.

Dr. Ravitch, who recently authored *The Death and Life of the Great American School System: How Testing and Choice Are Undermining Education*, believes that in many ways, the No Child Left Behind Act and the Race to the Top Initiative have only served to undermine the educational system further. She also decried the media's unfair depiction of public schools, which wrongly places emphasis on reform solely on teacher performance rather than the challenges of poverty, family structure and lack of resources.

To reform schools, she stated, the emphasis on high-pressure standardized testing must be cast aside in favor of a more collaborative approach that merges the inclusiveness of public education with the best aspects of the charter school movement.

Only through this, she said, "can we all work together toward the common goal that all children will get an education." ■

Recreation Department Nationally Recognized

The Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies now owns a distinction only few in the country have.

In October, the department received full accreditation from the National Recreation and Parks Association. And it came with an overall grade of A-plus, two commendations and no recommendations, which means our students

can move anywhere in the U.S. and their degree will be recognized.

The program has been offered at the L.I. Campus since 1974 and was started in Brooklyn in 2004.

"When the department is accredited, it means it has reached the highest standard in quality possible," recreation chair Gail Lamberta, Ph.D. said. "There are 550 institutions that offer this degree,

and there are 87 that are accredited." Not bad company.

The degree offers two concentrations: leisure services management and therapeutic recreation, and Ms. Lamberta said SJC's students are highly sought, with most obtaining jobs directly after graduation.

To read more on the recreation program's recent accreditation, visit www.sjcny.edu. ■

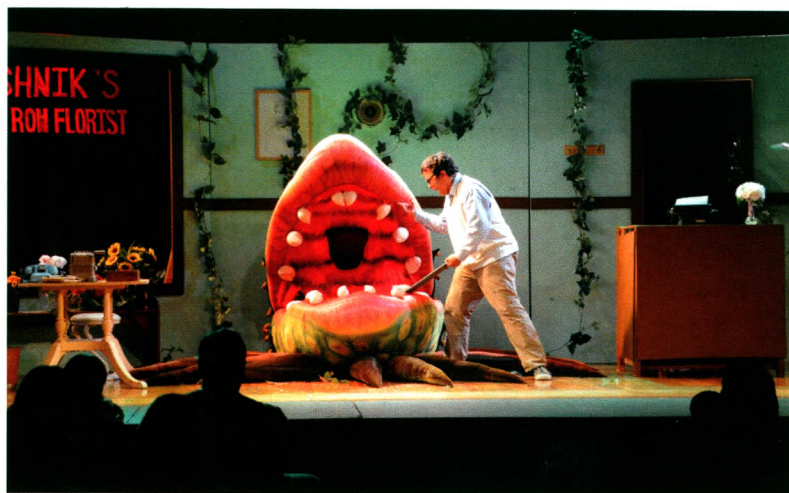
Meyer Honored



Robert Amsler

Peter M. Meyer '87, trustee and president of TD Bank's New York City market, was honored at the 28th annual Dinner Dance in November at the Crest Hollow Country Club. Pictured with SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D.

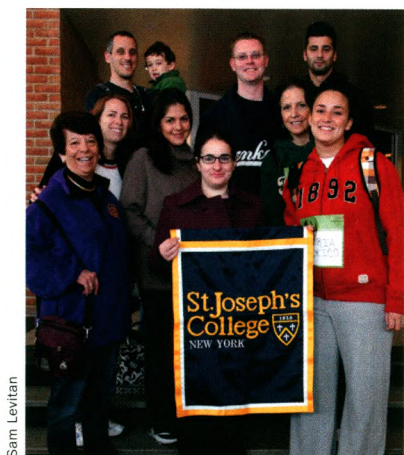
Feed Me!



Robert Napolitano

Christian Branch (voice) and Mike Laguidice (puppeteer) performed the part of Audrey II (the plant) and Daniel Velez played Seymour Krelborn during the Chapel Players fall performance of Little Shop of Horrors.

A Good Cause



Sam Levitan

Team SJC, which consisted of four institutional advancement employees and math professor Elena Reiser, Ph.D., raised about \$1,000 for the American Heart Association's Heartwalk in October at Stony Brook University. Vice President for Enrollment Management Theresa LaRocca Meyer walked in the event.

We Moved

As part of an effort to maximize space on campus for classrooms, the Long Island Office of Institutional Advancement, which houses alumni relations, special events, public relations and print and digital communications, has moved to the Village of Patchogue.

Our new location's address is 1 Terry Street, Patchogue, NY 11772, and the office now rests on the second floor of a refurbished building that's visible from Terry Street, just one block south of Main Street off South Ocean Avenue. The building can also be accessed from Main Street by passing through a breezeway that connects the parking lot to the street.

"The Office of Institutional Advancement is thrilled to have

moved into the Village of Patchogue, which has experienced great renewal over the past years," Vice President for Institutional Advancement Nancy Connors said last September. "We look forward to being an active partner in the expansion."

"The future looks very bright for Patchogue and we are happy to be in the mix."

Our building, which fits aesthetically into the area's architecture, is just one piece of downtown Patchogue's revitalization in recent years. The town has been in the process of replacing sewer lines, building new retail, office and apartment space, as well as a space for the arts. Some buildings also received facades. The brand new YMCA Patchogue Family Center also opened in September. ■

Making a Difference With Special Olympics

by Claudia Mirzaali • cmirzaali@sjcny.edu

With the ball clutched firmly in hand, one participant made his approach, eyed his target and released the ball. Down the lane it went. Wait for it ... and down fell the pins. Cheers and high fives burst all around.

No, it wasn't at the local bowling alley. It was at SJC's Make a Difference Day in October at the Long Island Campus. The event marked the first time the community service-based student club, Students Taking an Active Role in Society (S.T.A.R.S.), partnered with Special Olympics to provide games and activities for a special population from Long Island agencies.

From its humble beginnings 15 years ago, S.T.A.R.S. has epitomized the College's mission of community service. The brainchild of then Director of Campus Ministry and current Associate Academic Dean S. Suzanne Franck, C.S.J., Ph.D., the club started with a handful of students looking to get involved in their local community. Still in its infancy, the group attended Campus Outreach Opportunity League conferences to network with similar groups nationwide. The group also worked in needy areas and venues in what they called the "Community Plunge."

Through networking, the idea arose to sponsor an event to service the community's less fortunate on campus, and S.T.A.R.S. began sponsoring a Make A Difference Day carnival, giving students a chance to bring the community to campus and coincide with the national Make a Difference Day.

Over the years the event grew and became so popular that some



Robert Ansler

Many participants enjoyed bowling and other activities during the College's Make a Difference Day, which partnered for the first time with Special Olympics in October.

crowds swelled to nearly 700 visitors in recent years. It was time to return to its original mission of servicing the needy in the community, former Director of Campus Ministry Joe Bruno said.

Through a chance meeting with the Long Island regional director of programs for Special Olympics, the opportunity presented itself to work with a different population. According to Mr. Bruno, it gave students the chance to join and serve those in need.

"It's a sense of giving — what service is all about," he said.

The partnership proved to be successful. From the competition games, such as balloon ping pong and nerf basketball inside the John A. Danzi Athletic Center to the Olympic Village carnival under the tent in the Quad, the excitement was undeniable and contagious.

Student clubs, alumni and student volunteers from a local high

school sponsored games and activities for the athletes and their families. While some participants competed for prizes, others sat back and enjoyed the beautiful fall day while listening to music, karaoke singers and some enjoyed dancing.

"It was a pleasure to organize and host our annual Make a Difference Day carnival for the athletes of the Special Olympics and their families," Mr. Bruno said.

"The growth of our S.T.A.R.S. program on campus was evident and inspiring. It seemed as if all parties involved enjoyed the day and experienced the joy of true fellowship."

At the end of the day, the athletes left the competition field tired, but with faces beaming with joy and medals prominently worn.

Their hosts displayed a feeling of satisfaction, accomplishment and giving — an achievement one could be very proud of indeed. ■

STATE OF THE ART

Assistant Professor in Graduate Management Studies Allan Bock is one of several faculty members that taught in SJC's new high-tech digital classrooms during the fall semester. The classrooms interconnect Brooklyn and Long Island via high-definition monitors, video cameras and Smartboards. The rooms have sensors under each board, where a camera captures the professor's every movement, who also has the ability to zoom in on students. The rooms were funded by a \$400,000 grant secured by Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-Brooklyn). A video featuring the rooms can be found at www.sjcny.edu.

Photo by Robert Ansler





Faculty Focus: Lost in Translations

by Peter Lin, Ph.D. • plin@sjcny.edu



Assistant Professor of Psychology Peter Lin, Ph.D. (right), worked disaster mental health after a 7.0 earthquake shook Haiti in January 2010.

In January 2010, a massive 7.0 earthquake shook Haiti. More than 200,000 victims lost their lives, and more than three million survivors are still recovering from wounds and trying to rebuild their homes.

After the catastrophe, the Tzu Chi Buddhist Compassion Relief Foundation, an International U.N. non-governmental organization, immediately established a Haiti relief coordination center at the U.S. headquarters and sent relief teams from around the world. During spring break last March, I had the opportunity to join and participated in its relief effort for 10 days.

When I first arrived in Port au Prince, the airport was chaotic. The luggage was everywhere. I had to search for my own luggage on the floor because there was no conveyor belt. When I left the airport and looked at the damaged streets and ruined buildings, the only feeling I had was: "Wow, this is a living hell."

As the only mental health professional working in the relief team,

I tried to provide crisis intervention, education and emotional support for both the survivors and humanistic workers. When major disasters happen, no one exposed can remain untouched. Not only are there physical injuries, but psychological damages are often present as well. According to general research findings, for every one victim who suffers from physical injury, there are four victims who suffer from psychological harm in a major disaster.

At my private practice in New York, I have an office with two nice couches, sound-proof walls and air conditioning. It was the opposite in Haiti, which was for the better. I didn't have an office or a desk. I didn't even have a fixed location. In a disaster, the last thing a psychologist wants to do is to set up a fixed location and have a big sign reading "Mental Health" on the desk. The majority of people will probably not approach you if you sit at your desk waiting.

In Haiti, I usually carried several empty baby formula cans with

me. While the survivors were waiting to receive medical service, I walked around and did a quick psychological triage. If survivors seemed very distressed, I sat and talked. Privacy was not possible. Usually, when I started the conversation, other survivors listened, and as my client felt better, there was a rippling effect — other surrounding survivors also expressed some sense of calmness. This was an effect of vicarious healing.

Conducting psychological counseling was a challenge, though. As an immigrant in the U.S., my native languages are Taiwanese and Mandarin. English is my second language. In Haiti, the majority of Haitians speak Creole, especially among citizens who have lower social economic status (Haitians who speak French usually have a good family and education background). So, I had a translator follow me around, but anything I said to a client had to be translated three times, from Taiwanese to English, then from English to Creole. I felt lost in translations!

Providing emotional support with a translator was like performing surgery with boxing gloves on. Although my translator might not have been able to interpret what I said, love, respect and gratitude did not need translation. The most important emotional support one needs during a disaster is empathy. In general, survivors cope better when they feel that others understand their pain. This understanding provides hope, and hope can spread, so they can stand on their own.

Dr. Lin is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology. ■

The College welcomed new faculty members on the L.I. Campus — **Dr. Andrew Jacobs** (religious studies), **S. Eileen Kelly** (child study), **Dr. Philip Lombardo** (mathematics), **Margaret Moss, P.D.** (education) and **Dr. Teresa Tannazzo** (psychology). In Brooklyn — **Dr. Sharon Didier** (business administration), **Dr. Joseph Ross** (communication studies), **Christopher Smith** (business administration and accounting) and **William Trevino** (communication studies).

Elena Marts, S. Karen Donohue, Dr. Tom Grochowski, Dr. Marc Ricciardi, Dr. Peter Mascuch, Christy Jean, Dr. Judy Phagan, Dr. Benedick Turner, Robert McDonnell, Noreen McAllister-Bifulso, Linda Trimigliozzi, Olivia Salina, Catherine Rettaliata and Judy Hester all attended an SJC workshop with Dr. Nicole Wallack from the Bard College Institute of Writing and Thinking, practicing innovative ways to approach the essays many use from their shared custom textbook. Dr. Martin Luther King's *Letter From a Birmingham Jail* was selected.

BIOLOGY

Dr. Michael Hanophy presented a session, "Teaching About Discovery and Innovation — Considering the Concept of 'Father of...'" at the 17th Annual American Society for Microbiology Conference for Undergraduate Educators.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTING

Charles Pendola, J.D. published, "The Six Stages of Financial Ruination" in *Newscast*, a publication of

the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

CHILD STUDY

Edgar Daniels presented, "Using Cooperative Learning to Facilitate Differentiated Instruction," a 12-hour series of staff development workshops, to middle school English teachers in the Commack School District. The district also agreed to use his workbook, *The Cooperative Companion*.

Drs. Lynne Stucchio and Joan Silver presented, "Using Theory of Mind to Increase Socialization of Adolescents on the Spectrum," at the New York State Council for Exceptional Children Convention in Saratoga Springs.

Dr. Katherine Granelli presented her research on autism and miscue analysis in November at the Geneva Centre for Autism International Symposium in Toronto.

ECONOMICS

Dr. Richard J. Torz participated at the 2010 Northeast Business & Economics Association Conference in September in Morristown, NJ. Dr. Torz organized a panel session on behalf of his EU-EMU Working Group on the impacts of the current financial crisis on the European Monetary Union.

GRADUATE MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Dr. Robert Krug chaired a research session, "Environments of Business Ethics" at the Society for Business Ethics Annual Meeting in Montreal. He is also treasurer and a member of the society's board of directors.

Dr. Alan Vitters was appointed an ombudsman to the Northport Veterans Hospital Patient Safety Council.

PHILOSOPHY

Dr. Wendy Turgeon presented a paper in July at the Inter-Disciplinary.Net Conference on Childhood in Oxford, England. She and **Michael McClain**, also of the philosophy department, presented papers at an American Association of Philosophy Teachers conference in August in South Carolina.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

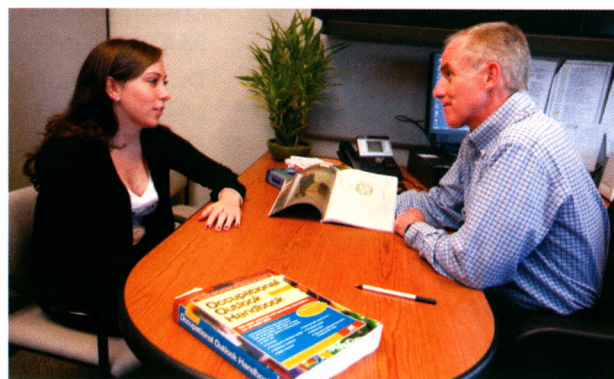
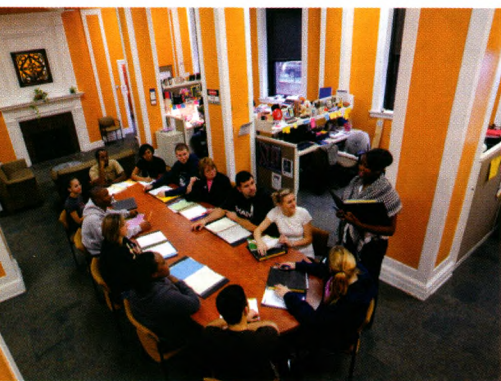
Dr. William Bengston presented his research on the effects of millimeter wave radiation on mammary adenocarcinoma in C3H mice, which he has been conducting at Performance Genomics in Nova Scotia under a grant from the Sierra Nevada Corp. Dr. Bengston also published, "The Healing Connection: EEG Harmonics, Entrainment, and Schumann Resonances," in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, was elected Society for Scientific Exploration president, appointed to the boards of the Institute for Scientific Exploration and the Editorial Board of the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine. Dr. Bengston keynoted an international psychology conference in San Diego and published the book, *The Energy Cure*, while going on an extended radio/television media tour.

STAFF

Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management **Gigi Lamens** published, "Talking the Helm: Do you Need a Parent Steering Program?" in *Strategic Enrollment Management Source*, a digital journal produced by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. ■

EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES

by Mary Kate Mahoney • mmahoney@sjcny.edu



Photos by: Robert Amsler, Chadri Chinalai, Marty Heitner, Len Rubenstein

While walking through O'Connor Hall's distinctively long and narrow hallways on the Long Island Campus, your eye is unconsciously drawn to the meticulously decorated bulletin boards filled with posters advertising drama society plays, intramural sports and upcoming career fairs.

Travel to the third floor student lounge and you are guaranteed to find clusters of students studying and socializing or individuals visiting one of the surrounding offices before they head to class.

The same images can be seen everyday in Brooklyn's Tuohy Hall, and those sights usually aren't common at commuter colleges. At St. Joseph's, though, the Office of Student Life has followed the vision of Dean of Students Susan Hudec, Ph.D., to keep students on campus and make the SJC experience more than just a pit stop.

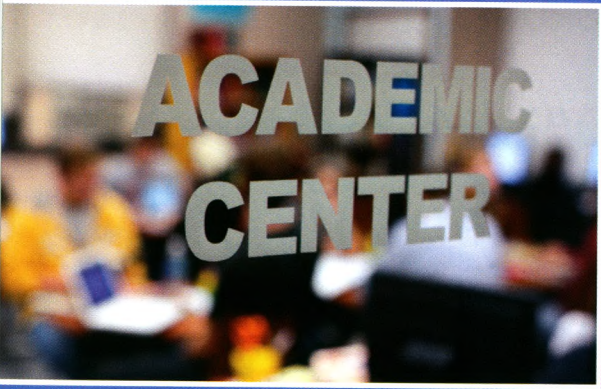
Under her leadership, both campuses have welcomed tremendous growth in student services and activities in recent years. From career services to

intramural sports, diversity events and the construction of new athletic complexes on both campuses, the office has innovated ways to reach and engage each individual student.

"We have to keep up with the market right now, so we are competitive," Dr. Hudec said. "We are giving our students the best of the co-curricular services that we can, and working with faculty to enhance the classroom experience."

The Office of Career Development, Wellness and Disability Services has experienced the biggest expansion within student life. Already a successful program in Brooklyn, the office welcomed a dramatic makeover in 2009 that combined the Office of





ACADEMIC CENTER

*"We really want
to offer the best services
for our students."*

— Dr. Susan Hudec, Dean of Students



Counseling and Career Development in Brooklyn with the Office of Counseling, Career and Disability Services on Long Island. Frank LaTerra-Belino, former director of the Brooklyn office, took over as executive director for both campuses and has guided the office through its growth process.

"The idea was to incorporate all the services in one area to encompass everything," Mr. LaTerra-Belino said. "Overall, the office has become more student friendly."

Along with open hours for counseling sessions, computers are available to students daily for career searches and the use of Optimal Resume, a career-preparation program purchased by SJC last year to assist students in developing their professional portfolio.

"There's a big difference in the involvement of students coming in," Long Island Associate Director of Career Development, Wellness and Disability Services Jacqueline Merriweather said. "I get so many e-mails with questions [from students]."

To accommodate the expanded office, new staff members were hired, including two psychologists and a disability counselor on Long Island and a part-time psychologist and full-time nurse in Brooklyn. Dr. Hudec said the office is looking to add a nurse on the L.I. Campus soon, and connecting the two campuses and sharing resources remains another important goal.

"We want to open up opportunities to our students [on Long Island] to go to a job fair in [New York City]," Mr. LaTerra-Belino said.

Along with numerous career development events, career fairs and graduate school fairs that are held throughout the semester, the office utilizes a holistic approach when counseling its students. It also offers free exercise and meditation classes for students, faculty and staff on both campuses.

"We take into [account] the body, the mind and the spirit for all students who come in," Ms. Merriweather said.

That includes Samantha Florio, a senior and director of the Campus Activities Board [C.A.B.] who is involved immensely with the College, well beyond the classroom.

"I've spoken with Jackie Merriweather about résumé stuff and personal stuff too," she said. "They're helpful up there. They go out of their way to help you succeed."

"[C.A.B.] has definitely improved my St. Joseph's experience. Without being in here, I would be lost, and I would probably be one of the people who hide in the library to do homework and go home."

C.A.B. is just one of more than 50 clubs and organizations on both campuses that keep students involved. Sherrie Van Arnam (Brooklyn) and Marian Russo (Long Island) lead the effort to continually increase opportunities and create more events that engage all students.

One of the most traditional ways students get involved with their school is through athletics, and St. Joseph's is no exception. Whether it's playing on a team, spectating or cheering, there is no question that school pride blankets every sports arena. SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. recently said that, "sports can do wonderful things for a school," and the College has addressed that with the construction of two major athletic complexes. Both are evidence that SJC has made every effort to ensure that students can be proud of both their teams and their facilities.

The Brooklyn gym, which was profiled in the fall 2010 issue of this magazine, is expected to open in 2012 and will serve as a much-deserved home for the campus' Office of Athletics. Builders also broke ground last September at the Long Island Campus for a 23-acre sports complex that includes a stadium that features a synthetic grass field and a track, as well as tennis courts and baseball and softball fields. Plans call for the Long Island complex to be completed for the fall 2011 athletic season, and the facilities should provide adequate accommodations to a program that has won the Skyline Conference Presidents Cup for best overall performance the past three years. Currently, some Long Island teams have to use off-site fields for home games.

"We're kind of nomads, renting and relying on other people's facilities; this will put us in a position, where we don't take a backseat to anyone, as far as facilities go," said



*"We are one of the more respected
NCAA Division III programs in
the New York Metropolitan area."*

— Don Lizak, Director of Athletics, Long Island Campus



Long Island Director of Athletics Don Lizak, who has led the expansion of the Long Island program from eight sports in 1994 to 18 sports today.

"We are one of the more respected NCAA Division III programs in the New York Metropolitan area, both from a competitive standpoint and because of the way we run our program. [The complex] will just add to the profile of the College and add to the prestige of the program."

In Brooklyn, Athletic Director Frank Carbone is just as optimistic.

"Our teams are already very strong, and [the new gym] will only make them better," he said.

While the complexes will improve life and competition for SJC's athletes, its students have found outlets through its plethora of clubs offered. Most clubs and many classes incorporate a service component into their charters and curriculum. And service organizations like Habitat for Humanity and alternative spring breaks, which was started by former Director of Campus Ministry Joe Bruno, are very popular among students.

Make a Difference Day, which recently celebrated its 15th year on the Long Island Campus, connects students with disadvantaged families. This was also the first year the College included Special Olympics to provide a whole new experience for student volunteers and participants.

Building on the idea of diversity and meeting the needs of each child and student, Dr. Hudec and student life have launched several diversity initiatives. A Multicultural Student Council is in development. The council will fall under the umbrella of the Student Government Association and incorporate each of the College's cultural and diversity clubs.

"Brooklyn has a pretty large number of cultural clubs, [and] right now in Patchogue, it's pretty small," Dr. Hudec said. "This will promote bringing in more clubs, having more activities and co-sponsoring, bringing more students to the events."

Dr. Hudec also plans to unify the student life office, making services and activities more accessible for students.

She plans to redesign the third floor student lounge on the Long Island Campus, creating a centralized student life center, with counseling services and campus activities all in one location, similar to the student life suite in Brooklyn.

"We really want to offer the best services for our students, to enhance the classroom experience," Dr. Hudec said. "So when they leave, the alums come back and visit."

Bryan Gill '06, Dr. Hudec's assistant on Long Island, added: "Looking back as an alumnus, I'm very happy with what the College is doing because you like to see it growing. It's exciting to be a part and really make those changes."

Mr. Gill and Dr. Hudec revived the intramurals program on the Long Island Campus in 2007 with popular sports, including flag football, basketball and field hockey. A strong student following developed immediately and Mr. Gill plans to utilize the new athletic complex for additional sports, including tennis.

The same has happened in Brooklyn, where Mr. Carbone and Sports Information Director Anthony Macapugay have watched and directed the addition of several club teams that have either gone or will go intercollegiate in the future, as well as offer more intramural opportunities.

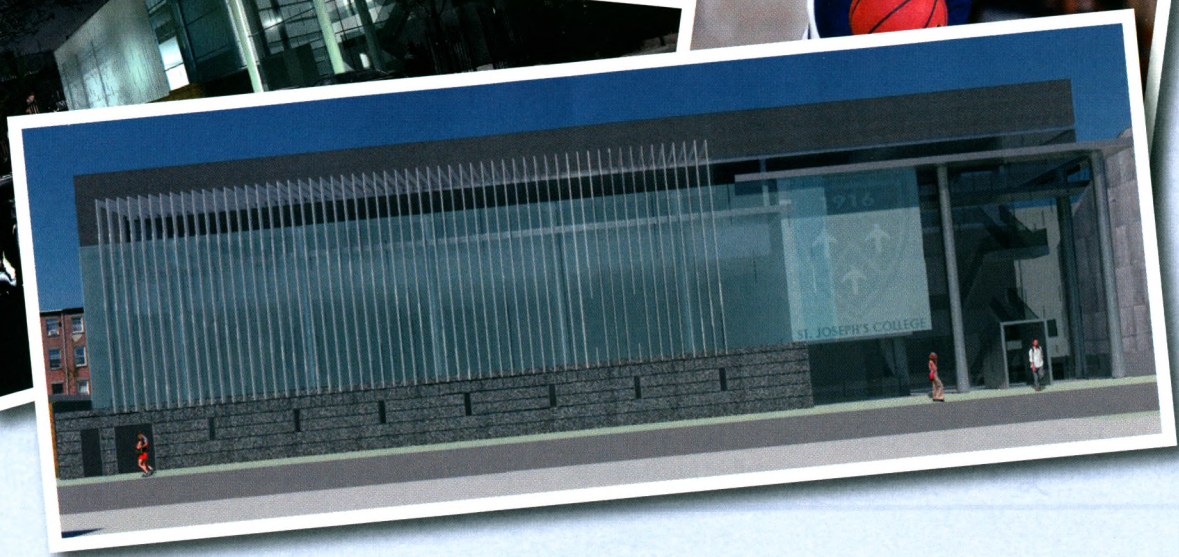
"We are always looking for different ways and ideas to offer as many things as we can," Mr. Macapugay said. "We encourage all of our staff to participate as well. Most of our events are one day, but we try to get as much student involvement as possible."

Engaging more students in athletic activities is a component of Dr. Hudec's goal for the Office of Student Life — to address the physical, intellectual and spiritual needs of every student, creating a stimulating environment for them to grow and learn.

Evidenced in the popularity of service clubs, the growth of collegiate and intramural sports and the constant traffic in the career counseling, wellness and disability services office, students are responding tremendously to her vision.

The program is expanding rapidly in many directions, and "it's only going to get better," she said. ■

Support Our Athletes



and the Brooklyn Gym

by Clare Kehoe • ckehoe@sjcny.edu and
Mark Wilson • mwilson@sjcny.edu

St. Joseph's College is committed to providing all of its athletes with an equal opportunity to learn and to be successful in an environment that promotes academic excellence and athletic success. With sports teams that travel all over the country, participating in various leagues and tournaments, the Brooklyn Campus Office of Athletics holds distinct advantages and presents unique opportunities for each talented athlete. More opportunities will arise with the construction of a new athletic arena, a 24,000-square-foot structure that will become the home of Brooklyn athletics.

As St. Joseph's approaches its 100th year of providing the best learning environment and facilities for its students, the College is happy to report that the plans for the new Brooklyn Campus athletic arena are on schedule. So, as the time approaches to put the first shovel in the ground, we need your enthusiasm and generosity to help make our fundraising efforts for this project a resounding success and to help continue to improve Brooklyn athletics.

The office, which currently organizes 11 men's and women's intercollegiate teams, four club teams and numerous intramural sports, recognizes that education is a top priority and works closely with the faculty to maintain this focus. The

primary objective is to develop the athlete's talents and abilities, not only in the arena of competition, but also in the classroom. In this way, the College strives to produce well-rounded young adults who are ready to accept and handle the challenges and responsibilities of being engaged citizens after they leave SJC.

Brooklyn athletics has entered its fourth and final year of the NCAA provisional process and has successfully recruited 30–40 athletes per year, which accounts for nearly 25 percent of the campus' undergraduate enrollment, and, during the 2008–2009 academic year, Brooklyn athletics recorded several record-setting achievements. The campus had 158 participating athletes, some of whom played more than one sport, and the average GPA for all athletes was 3.0.

Furthermore, the Brooklyn Campus was recognized by numerous athletic associations — including the NCAA, Hudson Valley Athletic Conference and the United States Collegiate Athletic Association — for outstanding athletic performances, academic accomplishments and distinguished coaches. In addition, the women's volleyball, men's basketball and softball teams all won Hudson Valley regular season championships, and two of those teams, men's basketball and softball, were Hudson Valley Conference tournament champions.

While 2009 was a banner year, there are plans under way to expand the program even further. Soccer and bowling will soon be added as club sports, and the number of new athletes is estimated to increase an additional 19 percent.

We're all very excited to be a part of the program's growth and the new gym, and we think you will agree that it is time that St. Joseph's Brooklyn Campus athletes have a facility commensurate with their status as NCAA competitors. As we near the time to finish planning and to begin building, we ask for your support to help us succeed. Perhaps you'd like to support the Brooklyn Campus gym by funding a locker room or trophy case. Maybe you and your classmates would like to do something as a group.

We're counting on you to help us champion this project. There are numerous ways that you can lend your support, and we are happy to discuss current and future possibilities with you.

If you would like additional information, please contact Assistant Vice President for Grants and Major Gifts Clare Kehoe at 718.940.5579 or ckehoe@sjcny.edu. I hope you will consider partnering with us by making a gift so that we can provide our students with the athletic facility they deserve. ■

L.I. Athletic Complex



photos by Robert Amsler



Making Progress

The excitement of developing athletic facilities extends to the Long Island Campus where ground was broken on a major complex this past September. Later in October, outgoing New York State Senator Brian X. Foley announced that the College would receive a \$500,000 New York State capital grant to support the project.

At a press conference to celebrate Mr. Foley's grant, SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. recognized his extraordinary efforts on behalf of the College while also acknowledging the generosity of Trustee John A. Danzi, who has contributed significantly to several Long Island Campus capital projects, including the athletic arena that bears his name. Two years ago, Mr. Danzi pledged to make a challenge gift of \$1 million to support the complex. His gift would match one dollar for every dollar raised up to \$1 million.

"Today, we are really acknowledging the generosity and hard

work of two very special people," said S. Elizabeth, president since 1997. "It's my personal delight to recognize my dear friend John Danzi. For those of you who know John, or you know of John because of the John Danzi Athletic Center here, you know already that he is one of our trustees and one of our most generous supporters.

"We are very grateful to John for many things, especially his expertise and extraordinary generosity.

Mr. Foley welcomed the opportunity to not only help SJC again, but to meet Mr. Danzi's challenge.

"Some folks, including John, are very modest people. But there is an importance to seeing a name on a building. It can inspire others to do great things. In John's case, it was private philanthropy. In our case, it is what I call a wise investment of public funds."

Mr. Foley's initial involvement in the project was as Town of Brookhaven supervisor, where he worked with the College to obtain

24.8 acres on the south Sunrise Highway service road and has complimented SJC for taking the unusual measure of reaching out to the community to share its vision for the use of the land.

The complex will be constructed in two phases with the anticipated completion date of phase one being July. The first phase will comprise the stadium, which includes the track, soccer and lacrosse fields, tennis courts and a parking lot. The second phase, which should be finished in September, includes the softball and baseball fields, as well as a walking path.

Mr. Foley reiterated his belief that capital grants to higher education institutions are a "wise investment of public funds." He also discussed the need for harnessing the capabilities and funding of the New York State Senate to secure support for important capital projects. He concluded by saying, "It is a joy to do this and it is the best part of this job." ■



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www.sjcny.edu

or contact:

Kimberly Tuthill
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WHY *i* GIVE

"Upon completing high school, I served in the military before embarking on my college education. After earning my two-year degree at a community college, I was hesitant in selecting the right college to complete my bachelor's. When I decided to choose St. Joseph's, I was unaware at the time that my decision would have far-reaching effects.

"My three years at St. Joseph's challenged me in ways I could have never imagined. Luckily, they provided a splendid staff of professionals to assist me whenever I needed encouragement. And my classmates were not only fellow students, but they soon became real friends, both on and off campus. Getting involved in intercollegiate athletics was also an experience that I will never forget.

"St. Joseph's College not only provided me with an education, it also helped me achieve my numerous goals. I continually give back to St. Joseph's because it is only right. This College has given so much to me. I have an education, memories and friends that will last a lifetime. I give because I want to play a small role in the future development of this College.

"And while I may not be teaching in the field for which I specialized, my career as a police officer benefits from my experiences. The values of my department are loyalty, integrity, fairness and excellence. Fortunately, I was able to gain a head start on all four because of the manner in which St. Joseph's prepared me."

Joseph Salvatore '07
Nassau County Police Officer

*"This **College** has **given** so much
to **me.** I have an **education**,
memories and **friends**
that will **last** a **lifetime.**"*

Stepping Around the World

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu



Standing on the podium in October at the Great Britain Championships for Irish step dancing, Lisa Murphy was filled with pride. The fifth-place showing was her best finish at an international competition, and her first time on the podium was unforgettable.

"It was awesome," Ms. Murphy said. "I always follow the competi-

tions, and I was so happy I was finally up there."

The Brooklyn Campus junior and Marine Park native has been avidly practicing Irish step dancing since she was 8 years old. She tried the more traditional youthful pursuits of tap and ballet, but her interest in dance wasn't piqued until she noticed several of her friends entering and exiting a small dance studio across the street from her house.

After joining, Ms. Murphy immediately became enamored with the technique popularized in the 1990s with the meteoric success of *Riverdance*. She now teaches, as well as trains, at the same studio, O'Malley Irish Dance Academy in both Marine Park and Breezy Point.

Her recent successes include the fifth-place podium finish in England, sixth place at the North American Championships (qualifying her for the 2011 World Irish Dancing Championships from April 17 – April 24 in Dublin) and 37th in the world at the 2010 World Irish Dancing Championships in Glasgow, Scotland.

Such achievements do not come easily. Ms. Murphy has made

sacrifices, but has found a way to balance her dancing with academics — and is now a 4.0 math major on a full Presidential Scholarship.

"It's very difficult to balance it, but I've been doing it since high school," she said.

During her senior year, she became an assistant teacher at her dance school, so it forced her to learn how to juggle the demands of training with her studies.

"I was teaching and then I would practice, for long hours, and then I would come home and do homework," she said. "It just comes [naturally]."

Finding time for multiple pursuits will continue to be a part of Ms. Murphy's daily life. She plans on attending graduate school and is interested in a potential career as an actuary, a demanding profession.

Through it all, she doesn't foresee taking off from dancing. She will continue to compete and teach, and has aspirations of opening her own school and possibly even seeking a spot in a world-renowned show like *Lord of the Dance*.

"I really can't see not having dancing in my life at all," she said. ■

Dancing Queen

Lisa Murphy has performed well on the global Irish step dancing scene (recent results below). She is slated to compete in the 2011 World Irish Dancing Championships in April in Dublin.

- 2009:** Mid-Atlantic Championships, Philadelphia, third place
- 2010:** All-Ireland Championships, Killarney, Ireland, 26th place
- 2010:** World Championships, Glasgow, Scotland, 37th place
- 2010:** North American Championships, Orlando, FL, sixth place
- 2010:** Great Britain Championships, Bognor Regis, England, fifth place



AN EXTREME EXPERIENCE

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu

As the temperature rapidly approached a record 91 degrees on June 28 on Quail Lane in East Setauket, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*'s then latest project was just about to cool off.

Several tents still covered various lawns sprawled inside a three-block radius in the residential neighborhood. Workers, which included several St. Joseph's volunteers, continued to sift through tools and supplies. Trucks were packed. Dumpsters filled, then removed. And the Lutz family later moved into their new home.

It was a heartwarming occasion for the Lutzes, a deserving family that endured unexpected life circumstances. Grace and John Lutz had adopted 18 foster children, including seven with Down syndrome. The couple then died, which left child care duties to their eldest daughter, Kathleen, who later suffered a grand mal seizure and was diagnosed with inoperable cancer.

Her brother, John, surrendered a successful career as a gymnastics coach to take care of the family. And even though Kathleen's condition has since stabilized, their 40-year-old home was in disrepair and had unsafe electrical conditions, mold and deterioration.

It was the perfect opportunity for SJC to help.

Through its connection with Alure Home Improvements Vice President of Operations Douglas Cornwell, E.M.B.A. '08, who has

“It was a really great experience to see so many people who wanted to help out and it was great networking as well.”

—Renee Barbis

assisted in eight makeovers with the show, the College sent about 40 volunteers, including students from the Habitat for Humanity Club and alumni to help in several ways — a true testament to SJC's dedication to service.

“I felt it matched the [College's] mission,” said Mr. Cornwell, who is currently pursuing a master's in human resources management at

SJC. “A lot of the people I had class with said they would like to do the next one. I wanted to offer the opportunity for anyone to come.

“Some worked in Art World, where they build furniture and do projects. Some went in and did landscaping. Some handed out water. There were a variety of things.”

Regardless of the task, helping became quite infectious.

“What normally happens is some catch the fever,” Mr. Cornwell said. “They never want to leave. They want to stay.”

That happened to several alumni, including Matthew Barbis '94, L.I. Director of Alumni Relations Matthew Colson '02 and L.I. Alumni Association President Ben Tieniber '05. The trio was there for four, three and two days, respectively, during the show's taping and after.

“It was an extreme experience. Everyone came together,” Mr. Tieniber said. “It's hot. But by the end of the day, it's what else can you do to help out. It's a team and everyone helps.”

The sentiment ruled and was echoed throughout SJC's presence in East Setauket. Despite several hot days of hard, manual labor, the College was represented nicely, and it was noticed.





Mr. Barbis, for example, was lauded for his contagious dedication, utilizing his contacts to find a welder, mechanic, carpenter and painters (the show's Art World often outsources several trades). His wife, Renee, a current SJC senior human relations major, also pitched in.

"I loved it. I loved the fact that there was so many people from the community that got together," said Mrs. Barbis, who was present for two-and-a-half days during the week. "It was fantastic. I couldn't wait to get back out there and do it again.

"It was a really great experience to see so many people who wanted to help out and it was great networking as well."

Among clean-up duty on the final day, Mrs. Barbis also worked with the 15 Habitat for Humanity Club members who were there during the show's taping. She and the club helped rip bushes and trees out to construct a fence that now aligns the neighbor's yard. They also dug a ditch to install electricity for the Lutzes pool. And each were impressed by the sympathetic premise and support of the show, as well as the College's impact.

"Just seeing how many people in the community cared," Habitat

for Humanity Club President Michael Buscemi said. "There were hundreds of people there full time, constantly working. There was no one standing around. Everyone was working hard. It was great for the club members to see how the community can come together and build this house.

"It's good for our club to get out there in the community and show that we are not just interested in the College area, but in Long Island as a whole."

Anthony DeMeo, a 2008 graduate who helped clean the surrounding blocks after the show finished production, added: "It's pretty impressive. It goes to show that St. Joe's is involved in not just Patchogue, but students come out and help anywhere.

"When I look back, this has been rewarding not just for the school, but for me as well."

Helping the show has been consistently gratifying for Mr. Cornwell and Alure as well, especially after their first experience, where the company was asked to renovate a Manhattan apartment on live TV in 12 hours for two FDNY firefighters. Alure and the show completed the arduous task,

even with some employees having been awake for more than 40 straight hours. And immediately after finishing the company's second experience, which reverted back to remodeling a home in five days, Mr. Cornwell said they were hooked.

"We caught the fever," he said. "We connected with the family and it was really what we expected the first time."

Extreme Makeover has established a solid relationship with Alure and now knows it can count on SJC. After finishing the Lutz home, the show again called on Alure to help remodel a home in Baltimore just two weeks later.

"They were drastically behind schedule due to weather," Mr. Cornwell said. "They got caught with tremendous rainstorms.

"We packed up 28 guys and worked for more than 30 hours."

Long Island. New York City. Baltimore. Alure has contributed significantly to *Extreme Makeover*'s mission during the past decade. And now, the SJC contingent hopes, the College will continue to be called upon for its services.

"I want to do it again," Mr. Tieniber said. ■





A Conversation with CIO Dr. Kenneth McCollum

by Mark Wilson • mwilson@sjcny.edu

What are some of your responsibilities as CIO?

The technology that we deal with is what's now called information technology (IT) and so, while I'm not exactly sure why, executives leading the IT effort in organizations were given the title chief information officer. When people ask me what do I do, and I say I'm a CIO, they look at me like, "What?" Overall, my responsibilities are to oversee and manage the use of technology within the College, anywhere from the network that carries our information in and out of each campus, to the development and use of the software applications needed in our offices and classrooms, to the computers and other devices needed to access applications and information. I am also responsible for the support of all those technologies.

You've come from the Nevada System of Higher Education and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. What has been the biggest difference coming from those larger institutions to the more close-knit environment at SJC?

There has not been that much of a difference. The issues are very similar. In North Carolina and in

Nevada, I had staffs of about 120, and here we have a staff of about 25, but the issues are no different. We all have to have a network. We all have to use the Internet, and we all have desktops that need service. That said, I find, for myself, it's a much better environment.

Why did you apply to SJC?

I was actually thinking of retiring, but I wasn't sure because I am a little young for that. My daughter had just been accepted to Pratt Institute, and prior to leaving Nevada, I saw an ad for the job at St. Joseph's. I'm a New Yorker, born and raised, but what attracted me to SJC is that it's a small liberal arts college. Coming from big university systems, like Nevada, I knew if I was to continue to work in this business I wanted to be at a liberal arts college because that, to me, is where the real education resides.

What advancements do you see for the long- and short-term at St. Joseph's?

One really remarkable advancement is the remote classrooms. Initially, I was a bit skeptical. When I saw what was being done, and all the different technologies being integrated, I thought the possible points of failure

were tremendous; something's going to go wrong. But here we are [in between semesters] and no classes have been cancelled due to technology issues. We have experienced very few problems. In terms of advances, first it is important to recognize that we are a service organization. We provide a service, and it happens to be around information technology, and we need to constantly improve the service we deliver. So, things like the College portal, expanded use of



Claudia Mirzaali

What is the portal?

The portal, very simply put, is a window to your environment. For us, it's a window into our interactions at St. Joseph's and a means of enhancing communication. For example, when you use the online feature provided by your bank you are using a portal. When you log in, all the things you see on the screen are things that the bank feels are important for you to know. Faculty and students logging into the SJC portal may have their class schedule right there. Likewise, staff members could have their calendars and e-mail available. Another aspect to a portal, from an administrative viewpoint, is communicating with faculty and students, as well as each other. For instance, we use e-mail, but that's not as effective as we'd like it to be. With the portal, you no longer need to worry about that. When we log into the portal, we see our customized information screen along with the information the College feels is important for us to know.

What are your top three priorities and why?

I have my top 12

written down, my major issues list. One is the network infrastructure: getting a better design, make it more cost effective, and do a risk assessment to see, exactly, what are the risks. Other areas include the portal, enhancing the help desk, finding space for equipment staging and storage, as well as for new staff, enhance our project management capabilities, and so on.

I noticed that you have a bachelor's degree in psychology. When and how did technology become your focus?

Serendipity. As an undergraduate I was interested in studying the effects of space on human behavior, which was a popular area in psychology at the time. Then I went on to a two-year master's degree in urban planning at Stony Brook University. During the summer, between the two years, a friend of mine was approached by a faculty member who needed data analyzed, which required some computer programming, and he was willing to pay. She didn't know how to do it, so she asked me if I knew anybody. I needed money, so I said, 'I can do this.' Then I proceeded to learn how to write these programs and the rest, as they say, is history. ■

Wi-Fi, Smart Boards and other classroom and office technologies will continue to impact our community into the future and the College IT organization will continue to advance the use of these technologies.

Perfect i

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu



Alyson Chiaramonte has an arsenal of six pitches, including one that her former high school coach touts as unhittable. Her drop curve buckles batters like a shifting fault line. Her fastball, which tops out at 65 mph, just pops.

So, it was clearly evident from her first practice in the winter of 2009 that she could provide standout pitching for a Brooklyn Campus softball team that was in a stage of consistent improvement on the national scene. She is that good and she has proved it.

"When she started throwing [at that practice], the baseball guys would stand there and watch," softball coach Frank Carbone said. "Our catchers were like, 'I don't want to catch her.'"

"This girl is the real deal. We've had some good players, but she is a level above what we normally attract here. Her reputation preceded her."

Chiaramonte transferred to SJC from Dowling with more hardware than Lowe's. A former All-State and All-New York City pitcher at Moore Catholic on Staten Island, she certainly had the résumé and skill that Carbone or any college coach sought. And she's furthered that standing in Clinton Hill.

As a freshman she hurled a perfect game, and after posting a 1.20 earned run average and 179 strikeouts in more than 120 innings in her sophomore

n the Circle

season last spring, Chiaramonte was named Association of Division III Independents (AD3I) Softball Player and Athlete of the Year — just the second time in Brooklyn athletics history that a Lady Bear received the AD3I's top athlete honor.

Just days before she learned of the award in October, she sat in Tuohy Hall's Red Room with her golden-brown shoulder-length hair as straight as her posture while reflecting on her favorite moments at SJC so far. Placing third in May's United States Collegiate Athletic Association Softball Championships resonates, and she feels the feat was unforeseen, and repeatable.

"No one thought we'd ever get that far," the recreation and leisure studies major said. "No one expected to see us win. No one expected us to be there."

Chiaramonte and SJC have thrived in that situation in recent years, and can improve in the immediate future. SJC, which has a team 3.3 GPA, returns every player, along with some prized recruits for its March opener.

The centerpiece is Chiaramonte, whose gaudy numbers suggest another MVP-type season is ahead. But in retrospect, her pitching repertoire and time at St. Joe's could be defined as a late developer who has blossomed into a dependable performer.

"When I was younger, I was so bad at softball," Chiaramonte said. "I was the worst on the team until I was 11 or 12."

"When I was 9, I got cut from the all-star team and I was heartbroken."

Most dedicated players would be. Missing the team, though, only fueled her, igniting a nightly practice regimen with her mother, Maria, father, Frank, and brother, Frank Jr. A friend also recruited her to catch at a Great Kills Little League camp, where she learned the intricacies of the circle. Stints with two of Staten Island's prominent travel teams (the New York Panthers and Sapphires) later followed, slotting the right-hander among supreme talent.

"My whole team was going to D-I and D-II schools," Chiaramonte said of the Sapphires, a team that has bred collegiate players during the past decade. "We had a really good team."

Still, Chiaramonte entered Moore Catholic with just a fastball and changeup. She needed to continue to develop if she wanted to get the same college attention as her travel teammates. She did, especially after her junior year, when she really began to build her diverse collection of pitches.

"When she was 12, she threw the ball real hard," former Moore Catholic coach Ralph Moroni said. "You knew she was going to be real special. She was a hard-working kid. Never a distraction. She always put a smile on her face at practice."

"She worked hard and the end result is she had and is having a real nice career."

Sure has. Chiaramonte received a full ride to Dowling, a Division II school in central Long Island, but transferred after her first semester because of homesickness.

Later at SJC, she initially split circle time with Lisa Scheer, who

Carbone dubbed as his No. 1B windmill. Chiaramonte, though, made an immediate impact by tossing the program's first perfect game and sixth no-hitter against Sarah Lawrence on April 10, 2009. Overall, she had a 1.70 ERA in 18 starts (107 innings) with 134 strikeouts and 28 walks. She also led the team in batting average (.364) and RBI (27) and was tied for first in hits (36) as a freshman.

Outside of SJC that year, Chiaramonte helped the New York City Havoc, an 18-and-over travel team, capture the Women's Major Softball national title.

Everything was going smoothly for her and SJC, until Scheer was forced out of the circle with a lingering shoulder injury midway through last season. Chiaramonte was then tapped for increased duty, and she excelled with the extra work.

"[Alyson] probably got an extra 30 or 40 innings than she normally would," Carbone said. "She was getting stronger in Game 2s [of doubleheaders]. The year she had, she was all-world. Just sick."

Chiaramonte has two years of eligibility left at SJC. She's already grown and flourished in Carbone's system and she also joined the cross country team to keep fit in the offseason. The rest, as Carbone said, has already fallen into place.

"She came in and bought into what we were doing here and became a tremendous leader," Carbone said. "She is the first one trying to pick everyone up, waving a towel. She doesn't miss anything. She's always in the gym. She transformed herself into an incredible athlete." ■

By the Numbers

1 One. That's how many losses freshman Katie Soeder suffered for the Long Island women's tennis team this season. Her breakout year featured being named Skyline Rookie of the Week three times and first-team All-Skyline. First singles Terri Leonard (second team) and Kathryn Wood (second team) were selected All-Skyline.

2 Sophomore and Cleveland native Teresa Mangan finished atop the podium twice this season, including the one where it was most important – the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Cross Country Championships. Mangan finished the 5K course at Purchase College in 22:13, placing third and helping the Brooklyn Campus to fifth place. The men's team finished the HVMAC meet sixth.

20:49.3

It took Gillian Goodwin just 20 minutes, 49.3 seconds to prove she will be a runner to watch in the Skyline. The freshman not only won the 5,000-meter meet at Van Cortlandt Park in that time, capturing the individual conference title, she also fueled the Long Island women's cross country team to an unprecedented seventh conference crown. Powered by Goodwin, Maureen Quinn (fifth), Ally Waka (sixth), Jeanine Encizo (15th) and Stephanie Aiello (16th), SJC earned 43 team points, edging Mount Saint Mary (59). Goodwin, Quinn and Waka were each named All-Skyline.

8 Just eight months remain until the Brooklyn Campus' highly anticipated birth of men's soccer as an intercollegiate sport. The Bears will play a full schedule in the fall 2011 season, and it fared well as a club team last fall, having won its first home game at Brooklyn Technical High School – a 6-2 rout of Vaughn College.

Though her 71 total blocks (.92 per match) was a Long Island women's volleyball team second-best, just behind Jessica DeMato's 72, Melissa O'Connell was named second-team All-Skyline.

.92

8

Goalkeeper Michelle Gulino was a prime reason the Long Island women's soccer team contended for the Skyline Conference crown last fall. Her eight shutouts helped lead the Golden Eagles to 13 wins and the regular-season title, but SJC fell in a tournament semifinal. SJC advanced to its fourth Eastern College Athletic Conference Tournament as the No. 6 seed, where it lost to No. 3 Fairleigh Dickinson, 4-0. Kaitlin Arthurs (first team), Nicole Christensen (first team), Samantha Garcia (second team), Gulino (second team) and Elyse Tomasello (second team) were all named All-Skyline. The team also won the Skyline Sportsmanship Award and coach Joe Lee was honored with the conference coach of the year award.

Junior Kim Matthews led No. 4 SJC with 34 kills in the tournament, but the Brooklyn women's volleyball team's bid for a sixth HVWAC title in seven years fell just short as it dropped a five-set, dramatic title match to No. 2 New Rochelle, 3-2 (16-25, 25-18, 23-25, 25-12, 15-9). Matthews was named All-HVWAC. Just like the championship match, SJC went five sets with HVWAC regular-season champ and top-seeded Sarah Lawrence during a 3-2 (16-25, 25-23, 20-25, 25-10, 15-7) semifinal win. Matthews had 18 kills, 27 digs and six aces. Yliane Ulloa added 13 kills and 13 digs and Melissa Simo posted 35 assists.

34

With 10 regular-season wins and one victory in the Skyline Tournament, the Long Island men's soccer team seemed poised to defend its conference title. However, a nail-biting contest with Maritime, a semifinal that the Golden Eagles lost 4-2 on penalty kicks, ultimately knocked them out. SJC instead advanced to the ECAC Tournament, but fell to top-seed Drew, 6-0, as the No. 8 seed. Stephan Zaech had 14 goals and nine assists. John Dettori added 17 goals and two assists. They joined Michael Carroll and Terrence Dzus on the All-Skyline first team. K.J. LaBarbera was named second team.

11

Seven runners finished in the top 16 to help the Long Island men's cross country team capture its second Skyline Conference title in the last three years. Farmingdale State junior Sean Tiernan won the individual title in 27:16.10 on the 8,000-meter Van Cortlandt Park course. Skyline Rookie of the Year Evan Haun (third; 28:08.7), Mike Merolle (fifth; 28:32.7), Eric Haun (seventh; 28:47.6), Mike Buscemi (10th; 29:09.4) and Mike Lombardi (12th; 29:17.30) couldn't catch Tiernan's pace, but each contributed to SJC's 37 points, which bested SUNY Maritime (47). All seven SJC runners were named All-Skyline. So was Paul Milazzo (14th, 29:39.5).

7

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The Fight Against HIV and AIDS Continues

by Mary Kate Mahoney • mmahoney@sjcny.edu



Ivy Turnbull '78

Community and social justice echo throughout Ivy Turnbull's personal philosophy. It's evident in the 1978 graduate's career, which has been dedicated to fighting the ongoing HIV and AIDS crisis.

The illnesses have primarily affected underprivileged areas with limited access to health care and education, such as some sections of Brooklyn.

She's also embedded in it at work. As the associate director for the HIV Service Division at Kings County Hospital, Ms. Turnbull manages the HIV Adolescent Program and the Family Care Center Program for Brooklyn, providing comprehensive, primary care and case management services for families affected by HIV and AIDS.

Before she joined Kings County Hospital in 1992, "[Brooklyn] had one of the highest numbers of babies being born with the HIV infection [in the U.S.]," she said.

Having earned a B.A. in Psychology from St. Joseph's, Ms. Turnbull always knew that she wanted to work in a hospital setting. However, it wasn't until she began her actual fieldwork that she real-

ized HIV and AIDS prevention was her desired focus.

While the position's clinical aspect was at the forefront of her career, Ms. Turnbull noticed early on how much of an impact legislation and policy had on the welfare of her patients.

In her particular community in Brooklyn, there were several laws that governed HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment, and she said she wasn't fond of them.

"It is really a question of social justice and what that means to people, who don't often have the opportunity or wherewithal to change the legislation that are put upon them," she said.

So, she joined and served as president of the national AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families in Washington, D.C., and to further her role and influence on AIDS legislation, she enrolled at Northeastern University, earning a Ph.D. in Policy and Law in 2010.

Ms. Turnbull is already making an impact on the federal government's role in the fight against AIDS. She recently drafted several recommendations for President Barack Obama's administration, addressing the role African-American women should have in the decision-making process for legislation affecting HIV and AIDS.

"A lot of my work has always been around advocating for the underprivileged and underrepresented population, those populations that society would call the most challenged," Ms. Turnbull said.

This sentiment was developed as a student at St. Joseph's. Along with learning the importance of social justice, she felt at home because SJC embodied the idea of community she valued.

"There was a feeling that there were always possibilities and the possibilities continued outside of these walls, because it was such a communal kind of school," she said. "It really gave me a sense of what community really was." ■

Educating About Heroin Addiction

by Mary Kate Mahoney • mmahoney@sjcny.edu



Debra Stevenson Nelson '75 with her late son, Brian

The connection was immediate and her reaction swift.

Debra Stevenson Nelson '75 learned of Natalie Ciappa's well-chronicled death to heroin while reading a story in the July 2010 issue of *SJC Insider*, the College's e-newsletter that covered a forum on heroin abuse in April. She too had suffered through a similar tragedy, having been with her son, Brian, through heroin addiction, rehabilitation and ultimately his death in 2008.

The pain has continued to be immeasurable and she has also dedicated her life to educating families about abuse.

"I was the most unsuspecting person," said Ms. Nelson, who is one of six siblings to graduate from SJC. "Parents can't ignore it and pretend it's not happening."

Like Ms. Ciappa, Brian Nelson had his life ahead of him. He was an honor student and an athlete, attending Fordham University on an academic scholarship — not the typical profile of a drug addict.

After suffering a career-ending knee injury, though, the Fordham football starting player turned to drugs to cope with physical and mental anguish. The stress led to his initial encounter with heroin and a long struggle that would eventually end his life.

"Brian had more friends than anyone you would ever know, but his depression made him suffer from tremendous inner-loneliness," Ms. Nelson said.

Although the death of her youngest son has left a permanent scar, Ms. Nelson found peace in her faith, and she wants to use her experience to educate other families about the risks, preventions and treatments of drug abuse.

"I have such experience and such knowledge that I have acquired the hard way," she said. "I've lived the first-hand horror of the programs that fail, the programs that don't work and the lack of expertise."

Reading about the forum at SJC, which was co-sponsored by

Long Island radio station WALK-FM, gave her hope that a movement is taking place to shine light on a devastating crisis on Long Island. During the forum in April, Nassau County Assistant District Attorney Teri Corrigan said that the number of heroin deaths has increased and surpassed deaths by drunken driving and homicide in recent years.

"It's a huge problem in Nassau and Suffolk [Counties] that hasn't been addressed, and it's wonderful that it is starting to get recognized," Ms. Nelson said.

With a law degree from St. John's University, a master's degree in secondary education from Queens College and more than 10 years of experience working in the Nassau court system, Ms. Nelson has both the legal knowledge and instructive abilities to implement a successful prevention and treatment program. She wants to open a drug rehabilitation center on Long Island that primarily caters to young people.

"There are very few transitional programs for when kids come back from in treatment," she said. "They come back, and they're put into school, and they fail. They need to have a therapeutic environment, where the parents and the child are counseled."

Reconnecting with St. Joseph's was a natural decision for Ms. Nelson. Her family's long relationship with SJC and their shared vision to help suffering addicts strengthened that bond. She hopes to eventually partner with the College in her effort to stop drug abuse and end the pain of families all over Long Island.

"I would like to see nobody ever suffer like Brian did," she said. ■



Rich Slattery



A CLASS OF THEIR OWN

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu

A new tradition has blossomed at SJC. After another successful induction ceremony, the Golden Eagle Athletic Hall of Fame has staked its claim as the place to be for ambitious athletes and teams on the Long Island Campus.

"Our athletes are now very much aware of the tradition," Long Island Campus Athletic Director Don Lizak said. "And that's really what we were trying to accomplish, as well as honoring our past athletes and teams that have accomplished so much."

The 2010 class included Chris Alfano '93, Ed Barbante '99, Allyson Wolff '02, Coach Sheila Rodgers, the 1992 men's tennis team and the 2004 baseball team.

"The three athletes have established records that are going to stand for a long time," Mr. Lizak said.

"And Sheila, we could go on and on all day about Sheila," he said of the pioneer of SJC's successful equestrian team. "The program that she has built is amazing."

The two teams also stand out, Mr. Lizak said. In its very first season, the 1992 men's tennis team was a powerhouse and became the first SJC program to reach the national championship tournament. The 2004 baseball team also reached the national tournament,

and defeated a number of strong programs in the process.

Since 2008, the hall of fame has inducted 16 members, a collection of the College's best teams, athletes, coaches and administrators. The process is never an easy one, as there are more deserving candidates than can be inducted.

"It's a delicate balance between people that have compiled statistics and the people who were the pioneers of the programs," Mr. Lizak said. "We still have a number of people that started the programs and we feel we need to honor them, plus the people that have done outstanding things on the field."

The 2010 board of directors included 13 members from a variety of programs and departments, including several alumni. Having a diverse committee is vital to sustaining a fair selection process.

The annual call for nominees goes out to faculty, staff, coaches and alumni of the athletic department in April. The deadline to submit a nomination is in June. Over the summer, the board analyzes each nomination and narrows down the candidates to an indeterminable pool of eligible athletes, teams and coaches. Eligibility is determined by a number of factors, not the least of which is academic performance.

"Those that we induct into our hall of fame represent past successes," Long Island Director of Alumni Relations Matt Colson said. "But we look to them to represent the future development and growth of our athletic program as well."

"We do hope to rekindle relationships and have their leadership abilities and skill set continue to contribute."

With those attributes in mind, the board then votes (10 members must be present) on the remaining nominees, and only those that receive 70 percent of the vote will be accepted for induction into the hall of fame. It is a very similar process to that used by the National Baseball Hall of Fame, albeit with a much smaller committee.

With 16 members already inducted in the first three years, where does the committee go from here? According to Mr. Lizak, there is no shortage of qualified candidates as SJC's athletics program continues to get stronger.

"If you look at the short term, our teams are doing well," Mr. Lizak said. "I think down the road we will have quite the field to pick from."

For more photos of the 2010 induction ceremony and reception, visit www.sjcny.edu/alumni/alumni-event-photos. ■

Relishing Every Moment: Agostino Coaches to Stardom

by Chris Gasiewski • cgasiewski@sjcny.edu



Amityville High School boys' basketball coach Jack Agostino '84 enjoyed many achievements during his career, including 400 wins and four state championships.

Jack Agostino '84 rested his right leg on a guardrail at the foot of a softball field behind Dawnwood Middle School in Centereach. He was relaxed, collected and articulate, just before exploding with excitement.

Mr. Agostino, Amityville High School's celebrated boys' basketball coach, has enjoyed significant talks with the media before, but this question sparked emotion.

Tristan Smith. Jason Fraser. A.J. Price. Mike James. Each played for large NCAA Division I programs after starring at Amityville, including Mr. James and Mr. Price, who went to the NBA. But which one of his former players was the most coachable?

"Oh, no. Are you crazy? See these gray hairs?" Mr. Agostino quipped. "They were all unbelievable in games. It was just amazing the level they bring."

As with all of his players during his 23-year coaching career, Mr. Agostino remains very fond of the relationships he built (he did say Mr.

Smith was the most coachable of the quartet). And his career has been nothing short of amazing either.

He's responsible for building one of, if not, the best high school sports programs on Long Island. An unprecedented four straight state championships. More than 400 coaching wins. Ten Suffolk County titles and eight Long Island crowns. An induction into the Suffolk County Sports Hall of Fame in 2007, and later into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame each highlight a résumé that's riddled with accomplishments.

However, accolades and successes are secondary, perhaps even tertiary, to what he feels matters most.

"It's the personal, long-term relationships," he said. "I get chills when I think about it. The lives that I have been touched by, and the little influence that I've had in their lives. It's incredible.

"You walk into the gym and see the banners, but I never think about

them. I never think about the wins and losses. All I think about is the relationships I've built. These kids have been a part of my family."

The Agostino family ties remain strong well beyond the walls of Amityville High. And he has a great support system from his immediate family: his wife of 25 years, Debbie, oldest son Joseph, who is a junior at SJC studying to become a math teacher, daughters Jenna and Julia and youngest son Jonathan.

His coaching bloodlines run even deeper. He has four brothers who are all coaches of either a high school sport or youth league on Long Island. Chris Agostino is the boys' basketball coach at Harborfields. Anthony Agostino is the same at Newfield. Mike Agostino is offensive coordinator of Eastport-South Manor's football team and Ralph Agostino is a CYO girls' basketball coach.

"They all piggybacked off of me," Jack Agostino said. "I started in the business as the second oldest."

His coaching career began with travel baseball teams, but he tapped into high school sports while working at Maryhaven Center of Hope immediately after graduating from the College. He coached the Centereach girls' basketball team for one year before finding his home at Amityville, where he is the special education coordinator and teaches three classes. His coaching passion strengthened since.

"It's a gift from God," he said. "I know that sounds corny, but it's so true.

"Some people have to be great players. Some people have to be assistant coaches and some people have

to be the head coach. God has blessed me to be a leader among men. I work at it and I don't take it for granted. I know every year I have to get better. I'm never satisfied with myself. So, I keep going at it."

That relentless attitude became contagious with his players and coaches, especially at the turn of the century when the Warriors began their string of state championships. Which one meant the most? It really depends on the day.

"That is the hardest question," he said. "I'm going to give you the politically correct answer. Definitely, all four meant so much to me.

"The first one was special because we never had done it before in the history of Amityville. It was such a special group of kids. The second one was really special too because it took so much to get there. And then the third one was crazy. We beat LeBron James' team [St. Vincent-St. Mary (Akron, OH) during the regular season] and we did so many things. And the fourth one, with A.J. Price, we went up and beat Glens Falls, the home team. That was the greatest individual game out of all of the trips up there.

"Today I'll tell you the first one, but tomorrow I might tell you a different one."

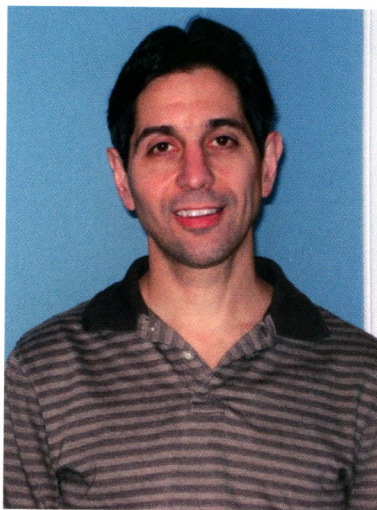
Picking one is difficult, but there's one thing he is sure of — taking pride in coaching and educating any player he encounters.

"[Of the] 115 kids I've coached, they've all gone to college," he said. "Now, they didn't all get their degrees, but they tried it. I want them to have a better life, and a better life is through education, not through sports.

"I feel so at home and the kids have taken good care of me. And I care about them." ■

Synonymous Missions

by Mary Kate Mahoney • mmahoney@sjcny.edu



Frank Cerasoli '85 was a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon.

For the past 50 years, the Peace Corps has been at the apogee of volunteerism and the ultimate aspiration for ethically conscious postgraduates. Joining the organization is a common life goal, but few people actually make the commitment and surrender more than two years of their time to serve.

Synonymous with service and social responsibility, the Peace Corps shares many core values with St. Joseph's College, making students and alumni perfect candidates for the organization.

Two such alumni are Frank Cerasoli '85 and John Fitzgerald '88. Close friends, the duo spent two years after college teaching with the Peace Corps in Cameroon and Papua New Guinea, respectively.

"It was before I had started on my career, and I thought that this would be the perfect time to do this," Mr. Cerasoli said of the organization that is celebrating its half-century anniversary in March.

With a B.A. in Mathematics, Mr. Cerasoli was selected to teach middle- and high school-level math. He also taught college-level courses to students preparing to take a General Certificate Exam, which would determine if they could then attend the university.

"Their education was immensely important," he said. "The students understood that it would determine their future, and they were so motivated to learn."

To accommodate his ambitious students, Mr. Cerasoli held classes at night, on weekends and during vacations. He often passed up traveling with other volunteers to stay and teach in Limbe, a seaside city in Southwest Cameroon. The benefits of his demanding schedule were displayed in the academic success of his students, who had a 75-percent passing rate on their exams.

"That level of motivation made it a very rewarding experience," he said.

Witnessing the positive effects of one's service is a common reward shared by many volunteers, including Mr. Fitzgerald, who taught English in Papua New Guinea and recently reconnected with several former students through Facebook.

"I'm touched in the way they saw how I contributed to their education, and what a difference they said I made in their life," he said. "Teachers don't always get to hear that."

While Mr. Fitzgerald's interest in the Peace Corps began at a young age, his decision to join was finalized during his senior year at St. Joseph's.

"When Frank was volunteering in Cameroon, I got a lot of letters from him that inspired me to actually follow through," Mr. Fitzgerald said.



John Fitzgerald '88 volunteered in Papua New Guinea after graduating from SJC.

While volunteering, Mr. Fitzgerald recruited a fellow SJC alumna, Monica Goodwin Montalti '88, to establish a pen pal program between his students and American teens at Bishop Kearney High School in Brooklyn.

"Of all my secondary projects, I think that [the pen pal program] was the one with the biggest payoff," Mr. Fitzgerald said.

The Peace Corps set Mr. Fitzgerald on a track that he believes he never would have chosen had he not joined. Upon returning from Papua New Guinea, the certified English teacher could not find any positions in New York City. So, he turned to special education and discovered his talent for working with children with special needs.

Because of his corps service, Mr. Fitzgerald was awarded a fellowship to attend Teachers College at Columbia University and earn a master's degree in special education.

"I've become friends with people who have served all over the world," he said. "I've learned about so many countries just through contacts I had at Teachers College in the fellows program."

Currently, Mr. Fitzgerald teaches special education at the J.M. Rapport School for Career Devel-

opment in the Bronx, and he recently earned an Ed.D. in Teaching, Learning and Curriculum from the University of Pennsylvania.

As for Mr. Cerasoli, the senior vice president in the actuarial department for Odyssey America Reinsurance has maintained a strong sense of civic responsibility, and he recently joined the Board of Representatives in his local city of Stamford, CT.

"The call to public service didn't end with the Peace Corps, and I decided to get back involved and help in a public way here in Stamford," Mr. Cerasoli said.

This sentiment is common among both SJC alumni and Peace Corps volunteers, and their drive to serve is usually rewarded with the outcome of their work.

"Most of my Peace Corps friends tell me they got more out of the experience than they put into it," Mr. Fitzgerald said. "That's a common theme among Peace Corps volunteers." ■

SAVE THE DATE



Walkathon/5K Run

Co-sponsored by the Alumni Association Long Island Chapter
and The Rose Brucia Educational Foundation.

Sunday, May 1, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Long Island Campus

Registration will be in the John A. Danzi Athletic Center.
Watch for a registration brochure in the mail.

For more information, contact the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations at 631.687.2653 or alumni@sjcnj.edu.

CLASS **notes**

Accepted to graduate school? Getting married? Ready to retire and take that long awaited trip around the world? That's great news, and we'd like to share it with the rest of the College community in Class Notes. Submit news items and photos through your class agent or through the publications office (1 Terry Street, Patchogue, NY 11772; phone: 631.687.2665; e-mail: magazine@sjcny.edu). Include your graduation year and degree (B.A., B.S., M.S., M.A., M.B.A.) earned.

1940s

Margaret McDerby Shea sent Class of 1942 notes: **Edith Mullen Boisi** celebrated her 90th birthday with her family in May in Sea Island, GA. **Loretta Dittenhoefer** lives in Melville.

Alice Gorman Brandon '48 retired from the Putnam County Department of Social Services & Mental Health in March after 24 years.

1950s

Victoria McMahon O'Moore '54 and her husband, John, celebrated

their 50th wedding anniversary. **Anna Lanahan '54** and **Mary Anne Fahey '54** returned to New York to attend.

1960s

Teresa Civello sent Class of 1965 notes: Thirty-two classmates attended their 45th reunion at the Spring Luncheon in May. **Maryanne Keenan Moller**, **Kathleen Gordon Cirillo** and **Frances Dona McDermott** have remained close friends since graduation. Maryanne works with her husband, renovating homes in a Toms River,

NJ, retirement community. **Kathleen** is English department chair at St. Mary's High School in Elizabeth, NJ. She also teaches in the McCarter Theatre Youth Ink playwriting program. **Christine McArdle Reno** is French department chair at Vassar College. **Joan Hinde Stewart** is president of Hamilton College and her book on French women and aging in the 18th century was published in fall 2009. **Bonnie Sekula Waldron** prepares budgets and coordinates lectures and classes for Boston College's philosophy department. **Mary Agnes Beckley Uminski** has lived in Indiana for 32

Fall Luncheon



Steve Birkeland



October marked another gathering of the Fall Luncheon at the '21' Club in Manhattan. Pictured left is the Brooklyn Alumni Executive Board and pictured right (left to right) is the luncheon committee, Laurie O'Dowd Piccinni '73, SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., Carole Rooney Morris '61 and Mary Beth Donovan '73.

years and works with young children at the Conner Prairie, a living history museum. **Joan Dornseif Regan** tutors students in math for Regents exams. **Kathleen FitzGerald Berry** moved into a new home in Brick, NJ. **Margaret Smith Walsh** recovered from a broken foot and hip replacement. **Sandra Lee Rogers** is retired and volunteers at various animal organizations. **Ruth Koehler Fiumaro** moved to Southold and sings with the North Fork Chorale. **Louise Beddow Kelley** has helped care for her widowed son's two little boys. **Chris McCullagh Cronin** commutes from Connecticut to the Bronx, where she still teaches. Her son, Kevin, a member of the U.S. Special Forces, returned from Iraq last January and was deployed again to Afghanistan in July. **Peg McCartney Leder** teaches religious education and has nine grandchildren — seven boys and two girls. **Barbara Madden McGarvey's** son graduated from Fairfield University and got married in July 2009. **Margie Morrow Becht** travels, plays bridge and exercises. **Mary Dawson** paints, skis and travels. **Maryann Finnerty Zacchea** does aerobics, volunteers, line dances and travels. **Nora McGowan Haggerty** welcomed her first grandchild in March. **Therese Brzeski Philipp** lives in Atlanta, where she volunteers at her church, a hospital and a nursing home. **Carol Giurlando Corrigan** lives in Kinderhook and volunteers at the local library, teaching adult ESL classes. Carol annually visits **Joan McCourt Lillis** at her home near Hilton Head, SC. **Rosemary Perinelli Kelley** and her husband attended the opera at La Scala in Milan, Italy. **Anne Cahalan** operates a Brooklyn preschool for chil-

Down the Stretch They Come ...



SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. was joined by many during the College's Day at the Races in September at Belmont Park. Pictured (l-r): S. Elizabeth, Anne Porter Molanphy '56, Ann Bauch '56, Clare Bauch '45 and Angela Alexander Maher '56.

dren with behavioral and emotional difficulties. **Clare Murphy** teaches part time under a Teach American History grant. **Ellen Kilgannon O'Leary** has three young grandchildren. **Pat Higgins Comer** lives in Sag Harbor, where she frequently entertains her classmates. **Judith Jacobsen Corbellini** celebrated her 27th year as director of religious studies at St. Anthony of Padua parish on Long Island. Judy cruised from Venice to Greece to celebrate her 45th anniversary. **Barbara Farley Columbo** is retired and cares for her 94-year-old mother. She recently traveled to the Dominican Republic. **Mary Ellen Miscione Giasi** is retired and sings, golfs and ski-races. She has four grandchildren. **Rose Marie Calicchio Dunphy** continues to write. Her articles appear in newspapers and magazines. **Geraldine Carey Gibney** has two daughters in the military. **Marie Barrese Magaldi** visits museums and theaters in Manhat-

tan. **Terry Civello** retired from her Medicaid consulting business and moved to Albuquerque, NM. She shares a home with **Dodici Azpadu '64** and will split her time between there and New York. Some classmates were unable to attend, but sent well wishes. **Patricia Jordan Michalski** lives in Buffalo and **Kay Murphy Goldmann** teaches speech and language pathology and lives in Texas. **Jean Serpe Sivillo** splits time between Port Jefferson and Naples, FL. **Cathleen Reynolds Gordon** recently moved from Long Island to Sun City Center, FL. **Elaine Giarrusso DeSilva** is interested in having a Connecticut reunion. Contact SJC's Office of Alumni Relations if interested. **Pat D'Ama-to Basili** heads the Department of Education at Prince George's Community College in Maryland. **Rosalie Corlito Henderson** lives in Dallas. **JoAnn Conti Kneafsey** cruised the Mediterranean. Also sending well wishes: **Annemarie**

STAYING IN TOUCH

To learn more about alumni activities, serve at an alumni event, reach your class news agent or to update your records, contact us in the Office of Alumni Relations.

Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69

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Matthew Colson '02

Director of
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Patchogue, NY 11772
631.687.2653

We'd love to hear about what you
and your classmates are doing.
So give us a call, drop us a line, e-mail
us at alumni@sjcny.edu or check out
our website at www.sjcny.edu.

**Let's stay
connected.**

St. Catherine Medal Issued



Robert Amsler

Paul Pileggi '85 (second from left) and Kaitlyn Mayne (second from right) both received the St. Catherine Medal at the Long Island Honors Convocation in October. Also pictured are past medal recipient Dr. Frank Favazza '87 (left) and Long Island Director of Alumni Relations Matthew Colson '02.

The Great Wendt



Robert Amsler

Salvatore Finocchiaro (right) received the Thomas J. Wendt Scholarship Award at the Long Island Honors Convocation in October. He was joined by 2009 Wendt Scholarship recipient Joseph Denninger '10.

Maine Carrino, Kathleen Ging Vasconcelos, Mary Ann O'Connor Worsthorn, Catherine Munster Furman (each from Arizona) and Bernadette Munster Rossano.

Jean Ann Rafenski Reynolds '67 published, *Gretel's Story*, a reflective book about the struggles and triumphs in life.

1970s

Margaret Dwyer Minson '70, former SJC director of alumni relations, earned an Ed.D. from Fordham University in May.

1980s

Ray Keating '86 recently published his first novel entitled, *Warrior Monk: A Pastor Stephen Grant Novel* — a compelling story of murder, action and romance.

1990s

Deborah Johnson-Schiff '91 was appointed vice president of strategy and business development for the North Shore-LIJ Hospital System's Physician and Ambulatory Network Services.

Michael Iavarone '93, president and director of International Equine Acquisitions Holdings Inc., was profiled in *Thoroughbred Times'* 40 Under 40 list for his accomplishments in horse racing.

Angela L. Baglanzis Mastrangelo '94 was named one of Pennsylvania's "2010 Rising Stars" by *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* magazine for the second time.

Edward J. Mullen '97, commanding officer of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Public Information for the NYPD, was promoted to deputy chief.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GOLF CLASSIC

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Plandome Country Club, Plandome



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631.687.2655.

Melissa Anselmo '98 is engaged to Richard LaForgia. They are planning a September 2011 wedding.

2000s

Tara Coppola '05 is a third-grade teacher at Saint Patrick's School in Bay Shore.

Congratulations to Jennifer Matos '05, who married Peter Mabanta in March. She is a special education teacher in Irwin Altman Middle School 172, and he is a phone clerk on the commodities exchange.

Congratulations to Jason Rudilosso '05, who married Stacie Connor in June. He works for Medigas Service & Testing Co. in Bohemia. They live in Holbrook.

Ellen Viola Thalhamer '05 published two children's books geared toward children with autism and social disabilities. As part of the *I Love to Pretend!* series, her new books, *I'm a Daddy* and *Let's Play Doctor*, teach children how to pretend.

Bryan K. Gill '06 received an M.S. in Management and an Executive M.B.A. from the College in June and he became a fifth-grade catechist and confirmation mentor at Sts. Philip and James Parish.

Congratulations to Katherine Borrero '07 and Anthony Palazzo '08, who were married in July. They live in Ridge.

Natalie Fascianella '07 and Christopher James Burke '07 recently became engaged. She is a teacher at St. Bernadette School, and he works in the Office of Technology and Information Services at SJC.

Best of luck to Concetta Felicciardi '07, who married Timothy Henriksen in July. She is a teacher in the East Islip Union Free School District, and he is the owner of Bubba's Burrito Bar in Islip. They live in East Islip.

Best wishes to Alison Pearsall '07, who married Adam Fritzen in July. She is a special education teacher

Anyone Up for Oktoberfest?



(l-r): Nicholas Pepe '01, Patricia Richroath Pepe '03, John Gammarano, Martine Sarno '03 and Daniel Mace '03 were just a few to enjoy the suds at Oktoberfest.

for the East Hampton Union Free School District, and he is a fourth grade teacher for Hampton Bays Public Schools. They live in Manorville.

Annette Johnson '08 was promoted to human resources manager at Motivators Promotional Products in Westbury.

Best wishes to **Janet Brandsema '09** and George Kostopoulos, who were married in July. She is a special education teacher and he is an eighth grade math teacher. They live in Delmar, MD. ■

IN memoriam

Alumni

Marian Heavey Billies '36
Anne Doherty '36
Madeline Larkin Hennessy '36
Angelina Astarita Pellegrini '38
Mary McMahon Davis '39
Patricia Euler Seaton '44
Edith Voelker Piazza '45
Margaret Connors Weigand '45
Joan Dolan Conlin '48
Muriel McNerney '48
Helen McCaffrey Flanagan '49
Mary Conlon '50
Santa Carlino Lopez '50
Grace Fallon Vinopal '51
Joan Seery Hicks '52
Patricia E. Rushin '52
Margaret Kearney Coughlin '57
Mary Smith '79
Linda Castro '05

Family and Friends

Christopher Pascal Levy, son of
Jennie Cristodero Levy '47
William Breuel, husband of Ann
Bennett Breuel '48

Robert Sheppard, husband of
Mary Hoffman Sheppard '48
Gregory Powers, son of Doris
Oshinski Powers '53
Margaret McMahon, sister
of Victoria McMahon
O'Moore '54
Bridget Agnes Kelly, mother of
Ann Kelly Lockwood '59
Thomas Shanahan, husband of
Bettyanne McDonough '59
Maria Giordano, daughter of
Eleanore Longo '60
William Dorkowski, husband of
Dolores Dunn Dorkowski '63
Melvin Hardin, husband of
Margaret Harrington '64
Henry Joseph Ciolli, father of
Vivian Ciolli Ackerman '66
Margaret Townsend, sister of
Claudette Townsend '66
Grace Ambrose, mother of Beth
Ambrose Sigal '68, Deborah
Ambrose Ripperger '70 and
Meg Ambrose Preller '72
William Beagan, son of Mary
Beagan Gaestel '69

Thomas Kelly, brother of Dorothy
Kelly Carroll '69
Frank X. Simko, father of Anne
Simko Rennard '76 and Joan
Carollo Bertorelli '71
Nancy Donlon, wife of William
Donlon '81
Clare Rose, benefactor of the
Clare Rose Playhouse, longtime
supporter of the College and
grandfather of trustee Lisa
Rose '97
Anthony Marchese, father of
Anthony Marchese '02

Faculty and Staff

Amna Ahmed, mother of Abu
Baker Mohamed, organizational
management adjunct professor
Nora Jaffe, mother of Martin Jaffe,
organizational management
lecturer
Jan Ramirez '96, adjunct faculty
member in the School of Profes-
sional and Graduate Studies
Dr. Ronald Rinehart, former
professor of chemistry

SPRING REUNION LUNCHEON



St. Joseph's College CELEBRATES

The Golden Jubilee of the Class of 1961

The Silver Jubilee of the Class of 1986

The anniversary classes of 1936, 1941, 1946,
1951, 1956, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1991, 1996,
2001 and 2006

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 30, 2011**

**The University Club
One West 54th Street, Manhattan**



Mass 10:30 a.m.

Cocktails 11:30 a.m.

Luncheon 12:30 p.m.

\$85 PER PERSON

**Members of the Class of 1961
are guests of the College.**

All alumni are invited.

Spouses and guests are welcome.

**For more information, call 718.940.5576
or e-mail alumni@sjcnj.edu.**

Celebrate St. Pat's Day with SJC



**Join us for a traditional Irish breakfast
at Connolly's Restaurant, before marching in the
2011 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade.**

10 a.m.

150 E. 47th St., between Lexington and 3rd Avenues

March behind the St. Joseph's College banner
with us on Thursday, March 17.

Join SJC students, staff and faculty at **12:40 p.m.**
on **West 46th St., between 5th and 6th Avenues.**

Cost for breakfast is **\$25 per person.**

To sign up to march and/or attend the breakfast,
contact the **Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations** at
718.940.5576 or alumni@sjcnj.edu.



Graduate Management Studies Alumni and Current Students

are invited to attend
one of our annual networking dinners:

Long Island
Butera's, Sayville
March 3, 2011

Brooklyn
Graziella's Restaurant
March 31, 2011

Watch for your invitation in the mail.

COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU IN THE SUMMER OF 2011



Be a part of St. Joseph's College history, as 12 Brooklyn-based students embark on a 50-day, 3,900-mile bicycling odyssey, visiting more than 40 cities in 20 states from June through August.

Join the coast-to-coast support team today.

Plenty of help is needed, as the core group seeks your assistance in the following areas

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- hosting the core team for a day
- stage, state and single-day riders
- support team members



We need your help to make this once-in-a-lifetime event a success. Contact c2c@sjcbears.com to learn more about the unique ways in which you can support the c2c team.

COLLEGE TRAVEL



JAPAN

Visit Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, Hakone and Kyoto

An excursion to Nikko and Nara

NEW DATE

JUNE 2 - JUNE 12, 2011

\$3,745 per person, double occupancy

For more information, contact:

S. Joan Ryan, C.S.J.

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Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

**Visit Tiberias, Garden of Gethsemane,
Sea of Galilee, Nazareth
and other notable places in Israel.**

January 4 - January 13, 2012

\$2,598 per person, double occupancy

**Led by S. Grace E. Rowland, C.S.J. and
Fr. Francis Pizzarelli, S.M.M.**

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S. Grace E. Rowland, C.S.J.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

WINTER / SPRING 2011

Office of Alumni Relations
Office of Special Events

B: 718.940.5576 / L.I.: 631.687.2653
631.687.2655

For a complete listing of events,
visit the College website at
www.sjcnj.edu.



JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH

JANUARY

19

SJC Alumni Business Networking Breakfast

8:30 a.m., Panera Bread, Bohemia

Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations

29

Alumni Hoops Night

2 p.m., Brooklyn Technical High School

Co-sponsored by the Brooklyn Offices of Alumni Relations and Athletics

FEBRUARY

21-26

Florida Alumni Receptions

29

Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford Khatib Chair in Comparative Religion Lecture

"A Buddhist Perspective on Personal and Social Ethics"

Speaker: Dr. Chung Hyun Kyung

7:30 p.m., D'Ecclesiis Auditorium, Long Island Campus

MARCH

3

Graduate Management Studies 10th Annual Networking Dinner

6:30 p.m., Butera's, Sayville

Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations

10

Home Ownership and Financing Workshop

6 p.m., Tuohy Hall Auditorium, Brooklyn Campus

Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations

17

St. Patrick's Day Breakfast and Parade

10 a.m., Connolly's Pub and Restaurant, Manhattan

March at 12:40 p.m., W. 46th St., between 5th and 6th Avenues

Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations

31

Master's Graduate Networking Dinner

6 p.m., Graziella's Italian Restaurant, Brooklyn

Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations





APRIL

- 1 **Chapel Players Alumni Night**
7 p.m., performance and reception, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations
- 5 **Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford Khatib Chair in Comparative Religion Lecture**
“A Buddhist Perspective on Personal and Social Ethics”
Speaker: Dr. Chung Hyun Kyung
12:30 p.m., Tuohy Hall Auditorium, Brooklyn Campus
- 5 **Face-to-Face Networking with Strategist and Author Mindy Selinger**
6 p.m., McGann Conference Center, Long Island
Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations
- 7 **Esse non Videri Non-Violence Award Ceremony**
12:40 p.m., O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus
Sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Religion in Community Life
- 12 **St. Joseph's College Career Fair (students and alumni)**
Noon – 2 p.m., John A. Danzi Athletic Center, Long Island Campus
Co-sponsored by the Long Island Offices of Career Development, Wellness and Disability Services and Alumni Relations
- 15 **Dance Club Alumni Night**
7 p.m., performance and reception, Brooklyn Campus
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations
- 30 **Spring Reunion Luncheon**
10:30 a.m., The University Club, Manhattan
Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations

MAY

- 1 **Alumni Association Walkathon/5K Run**
8:30 a.m., Long Island Campus
Co-sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations and The Rose Brucia Educational Foundation
- 28 **Brooklyn Commencement**
Brooklyn Marriott
- 31 **Long Island Commencement**
Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale

JUNE

- 6 **SJC Golf Classic**
Plandome Country Club, Plandome
Sponsored by the Office of Institutional Advancement
- TBA **Long Island Wine Tasting Tour**
10 a.m., Long Island wine country
Bus leaves from the Long Island Campus.
Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations



A Day in the Life:

Hector Delgado

by Brendan Carey • bcarey@sjcny.edu

Anyone who has ever struggled through the last half-mile of a road race with a personal best in reach knows the feeling. You're right on the cusp of achievement and yet you cannot imagine continuing for another second or another repetition. The physical and mental anguish is simply more than you bargained for; more than you are willing to give.

I have felt this way in the homestretch of pretty much every road race that I have ever run. You ask yourself why. Why do this? Why go this far? And you promise yourself that you will never push it that hard again.

But then you finish. And you set that personal best. And you feel euphoric. It's called the runner's high, and whatever it is, it feels good.

This is exactly how I felt when I shadowed SJC junior and Iraq War veteran Hector Delgado on one of his extraordinarily intense CrossFit workouts in October. The workout is without question the most excruciatingly difficult that I have experienced. Not only did it wildly exceed my expectations, it pushed me to the brink of my capabilities and rendered me nauseous and dizzy for several minutes after completion.

Nothing prepares you for the unrelenting and vicious intensity of a CrossFit workout. Except maybe for active combat, something that Mr. Delgado is no stranger to. The Selden native served in the United States Marine Corps for more than four years before he was severely injured in Iraq in April 2003.

Operation Iraqi Freedom commenced in March 2003 with a series

of air attacks aimed at displacing the regime of Iraq President Saddam Hussein. Troops were subsequently deployed to the Persian Gulf and the ground invasion soon followed.

At the time, Mr. Delgado had served the required four years in the Marines before being stop-lossed in the months leading up to the invasion of Iraq. A stop-loss is when a member of the military has served their time but is recalled for active duty during a four-year probationary period. Hollywood made a movie about it in 2008 — the appropriately titled *Stop-Loss* — and one can easily argue that Mr. Delgado's story has the sort of ironic dramatic gravitas of such critically lauded independent Iraq War films as *In The Valley of Elah* and *The Hurt Locker*.

Had the Iraq War never happened, and thus the need for the government to recall inactive troops, it's entirely possible that Hector Delgado would still be able to walk.

In April 2003, Mr. Delgado was participating in a routine refueling operation when the 8,000-gallon fuel tanker the soldiers were using collapsed and fell on top of them. Three men were trapped beneath the tanker, including Mr. Delgado.

In the Marines, Corporal Delgado served as a combat engineer with the 8th Engineers Support Battalion. "The unit that I was with, we set up camps," he said. "We did the construction, refueling, utilities, heavy equipment."

He remembers his accident well, and explains it in the ineluctable tone of a man who has told a story dozens of times before.

"We had come off a convoy. We were supplying fuel on tank trailers and we were providing security for that convoy," he said. "Once we detached the tank trailers from the trucks, they were staged in the sand and when we were next to one of them, the landing legs kicked out and I got pinned underneath it from the waist down."

"I don't really remember feeling any pain, it was more shock than anything else," he said of the ordeal, which lasted about 30 minutes and took the life of one of his friends. He never lost consciousness.

"Once they finally got us out ... that's when the pain started setting in. They put me on a gurney and they brought me to a medical tent within Camp Viper. They cut everything off of me ... and I remember I looked up and I saw that both my legs were completely flopped over, and they were black. I remember I asked the Navy coroner if I was going to live and he just looked at me and said, 'We just gotta get you out of here and you'll be alright.'"

"I heard the chopper land, they stuck me with a bunch of IVs, they locked me on the chopper and then that was it. I woke up in Bethesda Naval Hospital like two-and-a-half weeks later."

Mr. Delgado was in an induced coma for nearly three weeks. When he lost consciousness, he was in a warzone outside Nasiriyah, Iraq. When he woke up, he was in a hospital bed in Maryland with an array of severe lower-body injuries that have changed his life forever. His pelvis was in six pieces; his right hip joint had dislocated, destroying the



right side of his pelvis; his left tibia, fibula and foot were crushed; his sciatic nerve was severed in his right leg and he had abdominal compartment syndrome, which forced surgeons to open a wound on his abdomen to relieve pressure.

"I had to relearn how to do everything," he said. "It turned my whole world upside down."

His readjustment was difficult. He went through a period of inactivity and gained what he termed as "a tremendous amount of weight." He weighed 150 lbs. when he was deployed and two years after his return was 230 lbs. Mr. Delgado is five-foot-six.

"Once I got out of the hospital I became completely inactive and I stopped totally with any type of nutrition or fitness. I was barely going to physical therapy. I was just done," he said of his mindset.

The wake-up call came about two and a half years ago when he visited a dietician at the Veterans Affairs office. The results scared him enough to get active again. He began using a handcycle, but that didn't do it for him. He describes himself as having "a bit of an extreme personality," so he needed something more. A friend of his from the Marines turned him on to CrossFit. After some research, Mr. Delgado found Spartan Performance in St. James (now located on Veterans Highway in Holbrook), a CrossFit facility.

"After the first workout I had a strong sense of accomplishment," he said. "And from that point on I was hooked."

In the two years since he discovered CrossFit, Mr. Delgado has lost

the 80 lbs. he gained after returning home, though with less body fat and a renewed belief in who he is and what he can accomplish.

"To come from someone who wasn't sure how they were gonna live their life, to where I am today. It's an amazing program."

The results are startling. I didn't know Hector before he began CrossFit, so I don't know where he was when he started. But attempting to keep up with him during a workout is an exercise in futility.

"I had to relearn how to do everything. It turned my whole world upside down."

It took me about 19 minutes and 30 seconds to finish half the required repetitions before I submitted to nausea. He did the full workout in less than 12 minutes. It was incredibly impressive. The man is a machine.

During my frequent water breaks, I would gaze over in amazement as he tore through the exercise, set by set, without so much as slowing down. The pace was dizzying. He had already completed 11 rotations — he did one more than required, for good measure — as I labored through my fourth set.

I was pretty much done when Hector and trainer George Demitriou convinced me to continue on to my goal of five. Both men did the

final round with me as I fought off the increasingly strong urge to vomit. There is a communal feeling at CrossFit; a camaraderie between each person that befits those that routinely strain their way through grueling, borderline insane workouts.

"It's a community, it really is. It's definitely helped me out physically," he said. "But just on an emotional level, to start relating to people again is where it helped me as well."

His evolution as a person hasn't just revolved around his fitness routine. When he first started at SJC two years ago, his goal was to pursue a degree in child study. He wanted to be a teacher. But his work with Veterans Affairs changed all that. He changed his major to human relations and plans to attend graduate school for social work.

"I started to get really involved in the work I was doing at my office, and I realized that I wanted to stay in the veteran's community," he said.

At first he felt bitter toward the military for being recalled to active duty at a time when he was ready to get his life under way. He had just started dating his girlfriend (now his wife) and was all set to enter the academy to become a New York City police officer in the summer of 2003. But his outlook has changed with time.

"Now that I look back at it ... I honestly feel that it was for a bigger purpose," he said. "Had I not got hurt, I would not have valued my body, I wouldn't have been in school."

"One window was closed, another one was open."

It's certainly an outlook worth working hard for. ■



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